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ABSTRACT

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral found in several forms and because of its temperature-resisting properties, flexibility, and strength, it was widely used in the construction industry, automobile industry, and textile industry. Asbestos becomes dangerous when it crumbles and breaks releasing fibers that can cause asbestosis and certain types of cancer. Since the effects of asbestos exposure often do not appear until years later, there is concern in the United States over the presence of asbestos in older buildings, particularly schools. This guide lists materials on the uses and health problems associated with asbestos. As the name implies it is not a comprehensive bibliography but is designed to put the reader "on target." (PR)

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ASBESTOS AND ASBESTOSIS

Compiled by Karen L. Alderson

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SCOPE Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral found in several forms. It is mined chiefly in Canada and Russia as a dense rock and separated into fibers by crushing. Because of its temperature-resisting properties, flexibility, and strength, asbestos was widely used, until the 1970s, by the construction industry in insulation, caulking, floor tiles, and plastics, by the automotive industry in brake linings, and by the textile industry in fire-resistant clothing. Although asbestos causes no serious health problems as long as it remains intact, it becomes dangerous when it crumbles or breaks and its fibers are released. The fibers can cause diseases such as asbestosis and certain types of cancer. Because of these hazards, use of asbestos in industry is regulated in the United States to protect workers, and many uses of the material are banned entirely. Since the effects of asbestos exposure often do not appear until years later, there is concern in the United States over the presence of asbestos in older buildings, particularly schools.

This guide lists materials on the uses and health problems associated with asbestos. As the name implies, it is not a comprehensive bibliography but is designed to put the reader "on target." The present guide is an update of TB 87-1.

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ASBESTOS (Highly relevant)
ASBESTOS ABATEMENT INDUSTRY (Highly relevant)
ASBESTOS INDUSTRY (Highly relevant)
ASBESTOSIS (Highly relevant)
ASBESTOS--ADVERSE EFFECTS (Relevant)
ASBESTOS--ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS (Relevant)
ASBESTOS--LAW AND LEGISLATION--UNITED STATES (Relevant)
ASBESTOS--TOXICOLOGY (Relevant)
ASBESTOS DUST (Relevant)
ASBESTOS FIBERS (Relevant)
ASBESTOS IN BUILDING (Relevant)
MESOTHELIOMA (Relevant)
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Biological Abstracts (1926-)	QH301.B37 <SciRR>
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Magazine Index (1981-) Available in several formats at LC	
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Environment UF767.S33
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ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Asbestos Information Association/North America
1745 Jefferson Davis Highway
Suite 509
Arlington, Virginia 22202
Telephone: (703) 979-1150

Established by a group of asbestos companies in the United States and Canada working together to inform the public about the asbestos industry and about the health effects of asbsetos.

Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries-International
1600 Cameron Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 684-2924

Sponsors a foundation and research library which has materials on asbestos removal as well as construction codes and building standards.

Center for Environmental Management
Education and Outreach Division
Tufts University
177 College Avenue
Medford, Massachusetts 02155
Telephone: (404) 627-3531

EPA selected Tufts University as one of three educational institutions to develop and implement a pilot educational program directed toward groups that have a direct impact on asbestos exposure. The center offers training seminars, clearinghouse activities, and a technical assistance program.

Environmental Information Association, Inc.
1777 NE Expressway
Atlanta, Georgia 30329
Telephone: (404) 633-2622

Partially supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration for training of asbestos abatement workers, this organization collects and distributes information on asbestos abatement in buildings and structures of all types.

Environmental Protection Agency
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National Asbestos Council See Environmental Information Association, Inc.

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